

REMARKS

I. Preliminary Remarks

Claims 70-72 have been cancelled. Claims 57 and 64 have been amended. Claims 44-69 are pending. No new matter has been added by this amendment. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested. The Examiner is thanked for the allowance of claims 44-56.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C 102(a) and 103(a)

The Office Action rejected claims 57, 63-66, and 70-72 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Oki, and claims 58, 59, and 67-69 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious by Oki. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections, however, to place the rejected claims in condition for allowance, independent claims 57 and 64 have been amended to recite that the handle has an opening along the centerline of the handle to receive the sleeve. In the final office action, the Examiner indicated that Oki does not teach or suggest such limitation recited in claims 57 and 64. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 57 and 64, and their respective dependent claims 58-63 and 65-69 are in condition for allowance.

IV Conclusion

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call Applicant's undersigned representative at (213) 689-5176 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 07-1853. Should such additional fees be associated with an extension of time, applicant respectfully requests that this paper be considered a petition therefore.

Respectfully submitted,



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